COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

Defense National Stockpile Center
Defense Installation Restoration Program

Somerville Depot
Hillsborough, New Jersey

November 2002

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Defense Environmental Restoration Program

Somerville Depot
Hillsborough, New Jersey

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Submitted to:

Defense National Stockpile Center
Environmental Division
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Under:

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Executive Summary

This Community Relations Plan has been developed as part of the Defense National Stockpile Center's environmental stewardship efforts known as the Installation Restoration Program. The Plan is for the Somerville Depot in Hillsborough, New Jersey. It is part of an ongoing commitment to inform residents of the area about our environmental restoration activities at the Depot. A series of interviews was conducted with private citizens, elected officials and corporate neighbors of the Depot to prepare this plan.

The primary components are:

- Overview of the Defense National Stockpile Center's Installation Restoration Program,
- Key environmental restoration priorities at the Somerville Depot,
- Community priorities for information and involvement with Somerville Depot environmental initiatives.

The Defense National Stockpile Center's Installation Restoration Program is a nationwide effort to identify and resolve environmental impacts that may have resulted from past operations, practices or mishaps on our depots.

Findings of the Focused Site Investigation indicated that further sampling was necessary to define the extent of impacts on- and off-site for the groundwater, soil, sediment and surface water. Further study was recommended.

In early 2001, awareness of the Depot's existence was raised dramatically when it was reported that mercury would be transported from a depot in upstate New York to Somerville. Prior to that, the communities of Somerville and Hillsborough knew little about the Depot. Since then, public interest has been extremely high, focusing particularly on the storage and transportation of mercury and other materials viewed as a potential health risk. The community has mixed feelings about the Depot and its activities since the mercury story came to light. There is a widespread feeling that the Depot was not very involved with the community until the recent high-profile mercury issue. Public participation has sharply increased with public meetings, tours, newsletters, and the formation of an advisory board.

This Community Relations Plan serves as the Depot's planning document for community relations activities designed to inform and involve. It is a living document that guides the Depot through the ongoing process of outreach and communication to the community.

Section 1: Introduction

This Community Relations Plan has been developed as part of the Defense National Stockpile Center's Installation Restoration Program for the Somerville Depot, Hillsborough, New Jersey. As part of this ongoing program, this Plan informs residents of the Somerville area about our environmental restoration activities at the Depot. The plan describes the Installation Restoration Program and how it relates to the Somerville Depot, the environmental issues expressed by local residents, and community relations activities that may be scheduled to maintain open and effective communications with our Somerville neighbors.

Many Somerville area residents helped us with the development of this Community Relations Plan. They willingly discussed their environmental interests and, specifically, their thoughts about operations at the Somerville Depot. Those interviewed included local officials, interested citizens, neighbors, and nearby business owners.

This Community Relations Plan is required under federal laws and regulations, including the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as the Superfund, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), and the National Contingency Plan, a federal regulation which implements CERCLA/SARA.

This Community Relations Plan is available for public review at the Hillsborough and Somerville public libraries, and the Somerset County public library, as well as at the Depot during its normal business hours.

Section 2: Installation Restoration Program

The Defense National Stockpile Center's Installation Restoration Program is part of a nationwide effort to identify and resolve environmental impacts that may have resulted from past operations, practices or mishaps on our depots.

The objectives of the Installation Restoration Program are to:

- identify former storage, waste, spill, and disposal sites;
- evaluate the extent and nature of any environmental impacts; and
- take the appropriate remedial action.

If substances posing an immediate threat to human health or the environment are discovered, steps are taken immediately to control them.

The Defense National Stockpile Center's Installation Restoration Program consists of several phases. The typical phases are:

- Preliminary Assessment,
- Site Inspection,
- Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study,
- Decision Document,
- Remedial Design,
- Remedial Action, and
- Site Closeout (No Further Action Decision Document).

A **Preliminary Assessment,** the first phase of the program, determines whether past operations or mishaps have contributed to any environmental impacts at the depot. This assessment identifies where, at the depot, environmental issues might exist. The assessment information is gathered through interviews with past and present depot employees and an extensive review of historical and operational records.

If the potential for environmental impacts exists, a **Site Inspection** is conducted. This involves collecting and analyzing soil, groundwater (water found below the land surface, used as a source of water for artesian wells and springs) and surface water samples from an identified area. The analysis determines the presence or absence of possible environmental impacts.

If substances exist that may pose a threat to human health, welfare or the environment, but they do not require an immediate response, we begin a **Remedial Investigation**. This phase involves a more detailed inspection and analysis than that conducted during the Site Inspection. In this phase we try to define the precise nature and extent of the environmental impact. If groundwater is affected, hydrogeological studies (the study of the geology of groundwater, with particular emphasis on the chemistry and movement of water) are conducted to learn the water flow direction and speed. This information is necessary for the development of remedial alternatives in the Feasibility Study.

The **Feasibility Study** is conducted to identify and develop management alternatives, which may range from no action to full remediation. We evaluate these alternatives according to technical practicality, cost effectiveness, regulatory requirements, environmental impact and community relations. A proposed remedial alternative is identified. We invite the public to comment on the proposed action. The Feasibility Study activities begin during the **Remedial Investigation** phase.

A **Decision Document,** or Record of Decision, stating the chosen remedial alternative from the Feasibility Study, is written at this point, and, with input from the regulators and the public, is adopted.

The **Remedial Design** phase comes after a decision has been made on which remedial alternative to pursue. The Remedial Design, developed on the basis of the Feasibility Study, is a detailed design of the selected Remedial Action. The design includes specifications and design drawings. The Remedial Design is used to implement the Remedial Action.

During the **Remedial Action** phase, we begin to correct the environmental impact to a level that will protect public health, welfare and the environment. Covering a landfill with an impermeable cap (a cover through which substances cannot pass) and removing contaminated soil for disposal at a landfill are examples of remedial measures that might be selected.

If the identified sites do not contain substances that pose a threat to human health or the environment, the information gathered is used to support a **No Further Action Decision Document**. A No Further Action Decision Document is also routinely issued at the conclusion of any remediation (**Site Closeout**). The No Further Action Decision Document is issued to state regulatory agencies for agreement. The document is then released to the public for a 30-day comment period.

We welcome and encourage public participation throughout this process. In fact, each of the action steps of this program is coordinated with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. In addition, resident concerns are an important part of all Installation Restoration Program decision-making.

Section 3: Depot Background and Focused Site Investigation Results

The Somerville Depot is located on the west side of U.S. Highway 206, about 2.5 miles south of Somerville, in Hillsborough, New Jersey. The Depot is operated by the Defense Logistics Agency under the National Defense Stockpile program. The program was established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act to avoid dependence on foreign sources of essential materials during times of national emergencies.

The site is currently an active storage depot, engaged in the storage of various materials, including metallic ores, refined metals, and mineral substances. These materials are stored both outdoors and indoors. The materials stored outdoors are in drums or in piles on top of concrete pads, asphalt, or a crushed, compacted stone surface; those stored indoors are in one of the four warehouses. Lead, chromite ore, ferrochrome, bauxite, aluminum oxide, and zinc are stored in the outside storage areas.

The warehouses store the following materials in drums, boxes, or burlap bags in box pallets: antimony, beryllium, cadmium, chromium metal, cobalt, iodine, mercury, mica, quartz, rubber, tannin, titanium sponge, tungsten, ferrochrome, graphite, ferrotungsten, talc, and tantalum. Germanium and jewel bearings are stored in a vault. The warehouses where substances are stored include four ground-level concrete-block buildings with concrete floors, with an aggregate storage area of approximately 800,000 square feet.

The Depot was originally constructed in 1942 as an Army Quartermaster Depot and prisoner of war camp. The current Depot occupies the western 78 acres of the original 355-acre site. The land to the east is now used by the Veterans Administration. To the north lie the Duke estate, a tract of approximately 3,000 acres that is largely undeveloped, and a parcel that was once part of the Depot and is now used by Somerset County police agencies as a firing range. To the west are private residences and commercial property. The area south of the Depot is primarily residential. A park and recreational area are to the southeast.

In 1998, the Defense Logistics Agency had a Preliminary Assessment conducted at the Depot to ascertain whether there existed the potential for any of the materials stored or used on the depot to be released into the environment via the soil, groundwater, surface water or air. When information developed in the Preliminary Assessment concluded that additional investigation was appropriate, a Site Investigation was conducted. The Focused Site Investigation was completed in March 2000.

Findings of the Site Investigation

It was determined that the following areas were likely to have been impacted by Depot activities, as soil samples showed concentrations that exceeded site background criteria: the incinerator, the manganese ore stockpile, the ferrochrome pile, the fueling area, and Open Areas C, D, G1, and G2. (Figure 1)

- The subsurface soil samples taken were limited in depth because of the density of the compacted soil near the metal and ore stockpiles. The results are inconclusive for

determining the potential migration of metals to the groundwater table. Five subsurface samples had concentrations of one or more metals that exceeded regulatory criteria.

- The surface soil samples have concentrations high enough to warrant further study to determine the horizontal and vertical extent of impacts in the manganese ore stockpile area, the ferrochrome stockpile area, the fueling area and three open areas.

- Sediment samples collected on-site at the five storm water outfalls show concentrations of six metals (lead, zinc, nickel, chromite ore, manganese ore, and ferrochrome) that exceed both the low and severe effects levels under the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection guidance. The concentrations of four other metals (arsenic, cadmium, chromium, and selenium) exceed the low effects level.

- The surface water samples collected at each of the five storm water outfalls indicate the presence of four metals (antimony, arsenic, lead, and thallium) that exceeded surface water classification criteria and warrant further study. Off-site sediment sampling and analysis for metals is also recommended to assess the presence of off-site impacts.

Conclusions

The testing was inconclusive overall but the results were significant enough to warrant further study in nearly every area.

Recommendations

Further sampling is recommended to define the extent of impacts on- and off-site for the groundwater, soil, sediment and surface water. A focused remedial investigation is recommended as the next phase.

- Sampling of groundwater is recommended for a definitive assessment of groundwater quality.

- Additional soil sampling is recommended in the following areas: the incinerator, Open Area G1 (manganese ore stockpile), Open Area G2 (ferrochrome pile), Open Area D, Open Area C, and the fueling area. Also, additional testing is needed in adjacent areas beyond the immediate vicinity of the stockpiles and storage area, as well as off-site.

- Further sampling of the pond is recommended to assess the presence of impacted sediments off-site. Further sampling of sediments downstream of outfalls SED-01, 02, and 03 is also recommended.

- Further sediment samples are recommended to better define the potential impact and source of the elevated levels of metal concentrations at the five storm water outfalls.

- Additional testing is recommended to identify the source of water impacts. Re-sampling of the outfalls is needed to determine whether impacts are due to dissolved metals or are attributable to particulates in the water. Additional testing of surface water is also recommended, both off-site and downstream of the outfalls, as well as upstream or "background" locations, to find out if there are off site impacts and, if so, the source of these impacts.

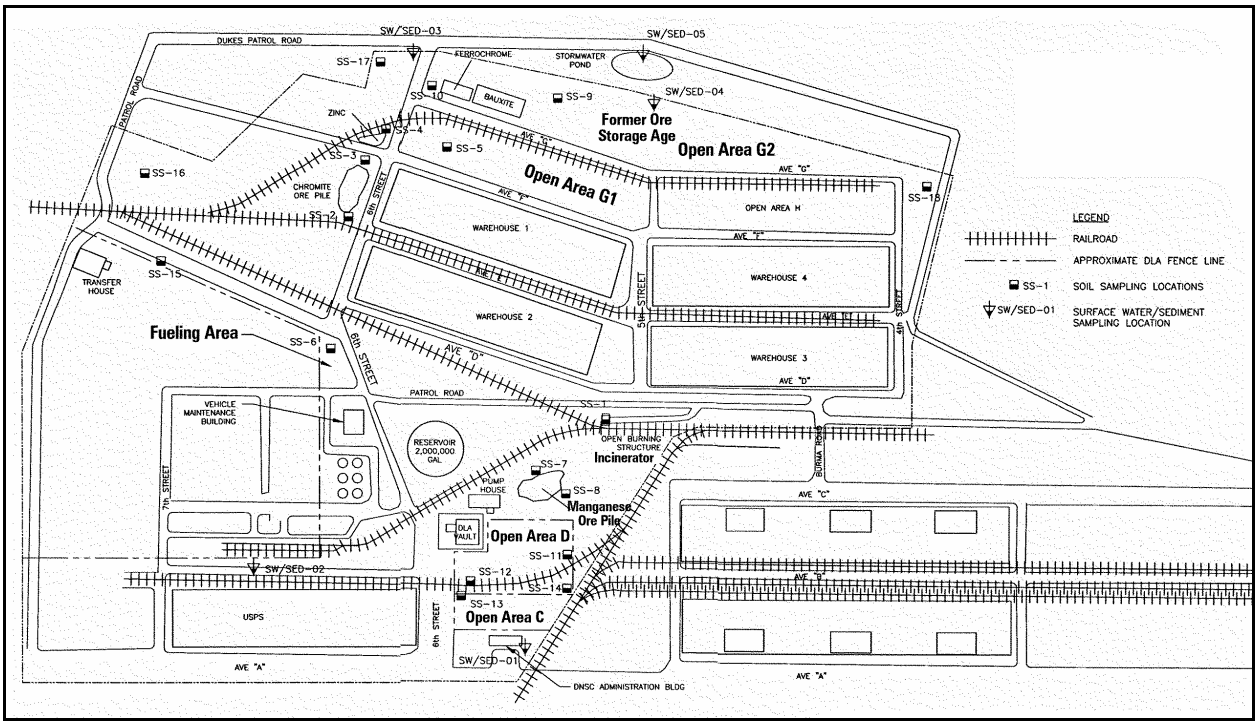

Figure 1. Location of the identified sites at the Somerville Depot, Hillsborough, New Jersey

Section 4: Area Profile

Community Profile

The Somerville Depot is located in Hillsborough, New Jersey, the county seat for Somerset County for more than two centuries. It lies in the central part of the state and central part of the county. The Depot is located on the west side of Route 206, approximately 2.5 miles south of Somerville, New Jersey. (Figure 2)

Hillsborough Township, with a population approximately 36,630, is the largest municipality in Somerset County and one of its fastest growing communities. Originally incorporated in 1771, the township is made up of small villages. Conveniently located in central New Jersey, it has easy access to both New York and Philadelphia, just across the river from Trenton, the state capital. The township has a mixture of carefully planned residential housing and commercial development. The research and development activities of corporations in the area have attracted scientists, researchers and technicians to Hillsborough. (Figure 3)

Geographical and Climatic Characterization

The Somerville Depot is located on a surface water divide between two drainage basins. Surface water in the northern portion of the Depot drains through two storm water outfalls to a tributary of Dukes Brook. Dukes Brook flows through the Duke Estate to the Raritan River, approximately three miles downstream of the site. Surface water drainage in the southern portion of the Depot drains through two storm water outfalls to a tributary of Royce Creek. Royce Brook flows to the Millstone River, approximately four miles downstream of the site. The Millstone River flows northward until joining with the Raritan River approximately five miles downstream of the site. The Raritan River flows generally eastward, emptying into Raritan Bay in the Atlantic Ocean more than 20 miles downstream of the site.

Precipitation for the Somerville area is characterized as heavy at more than 40 inches per year. There is no history of flooding at the site, which is not located in a floodplain area. Somerville is located about 157 feet above sea level. Winter temperatures can average as low as 29° F while in the summer months 73° F is the highest average.

The Somerville Depot lies on the Passaic Formation made up of bright red to rusty shale. It is characterized as a non-marine, very fine-grained, thin bedded formation with some siltstone beds and occasional beds of black, gray, greenish or bluish shale. The thickness of the Passaic Formation may exceed 800 feet in the area of the Depot.

The Passaic Formation is one of the most extensive and important aquifers in New Jersey, underlying portions of 10 counties and consisting of about 1,000 square miles. The area overlying the aquifer is the most industrialized and populous in the state. The aquifer is recharged by precipitation and discharges to pumping wells and to major rivers.

The depth of the water table at Somerville is unknown since the site sits atop a hill and there are no wells in the vicinity.

Wildlife

Potential habitat for threatened or endangered species exists on the Duke Estate north of the Depot, and several rare bird species have been sited there. (New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Letter from Thomas F. Breden, Supervisor, Division of Parks and Forestry, Office of Natural Lands Program, Natural Heritage Program dated May 18, 1998)

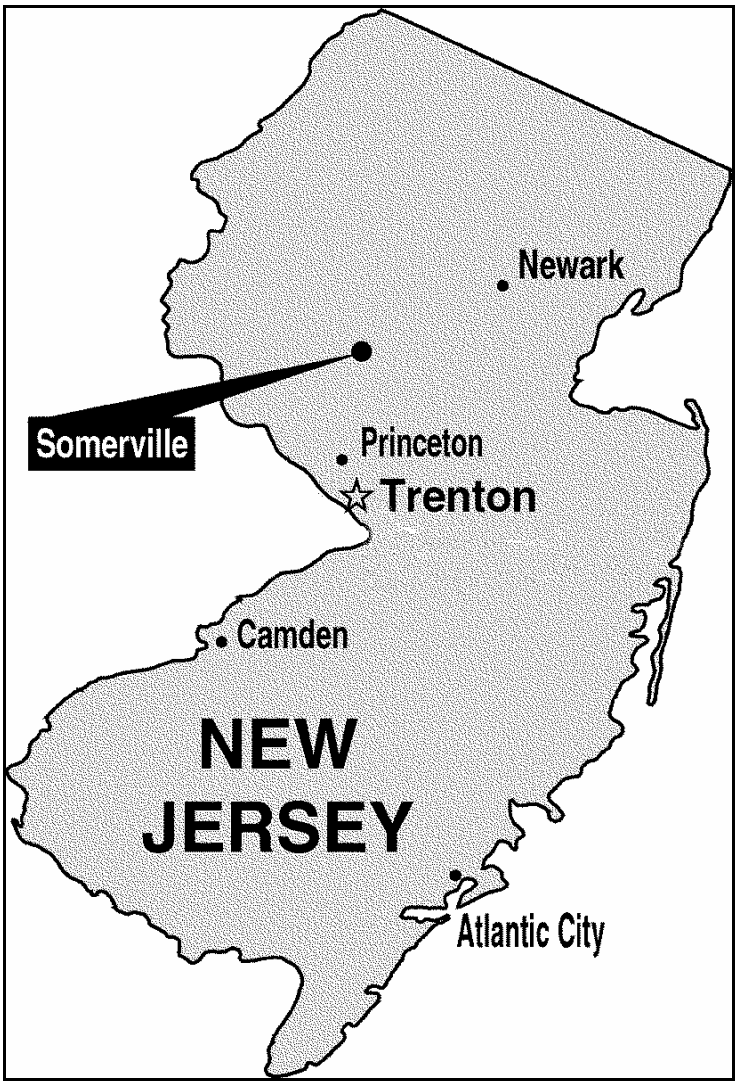

Figure 2. Location of the
Somerville Depot within New Jersey

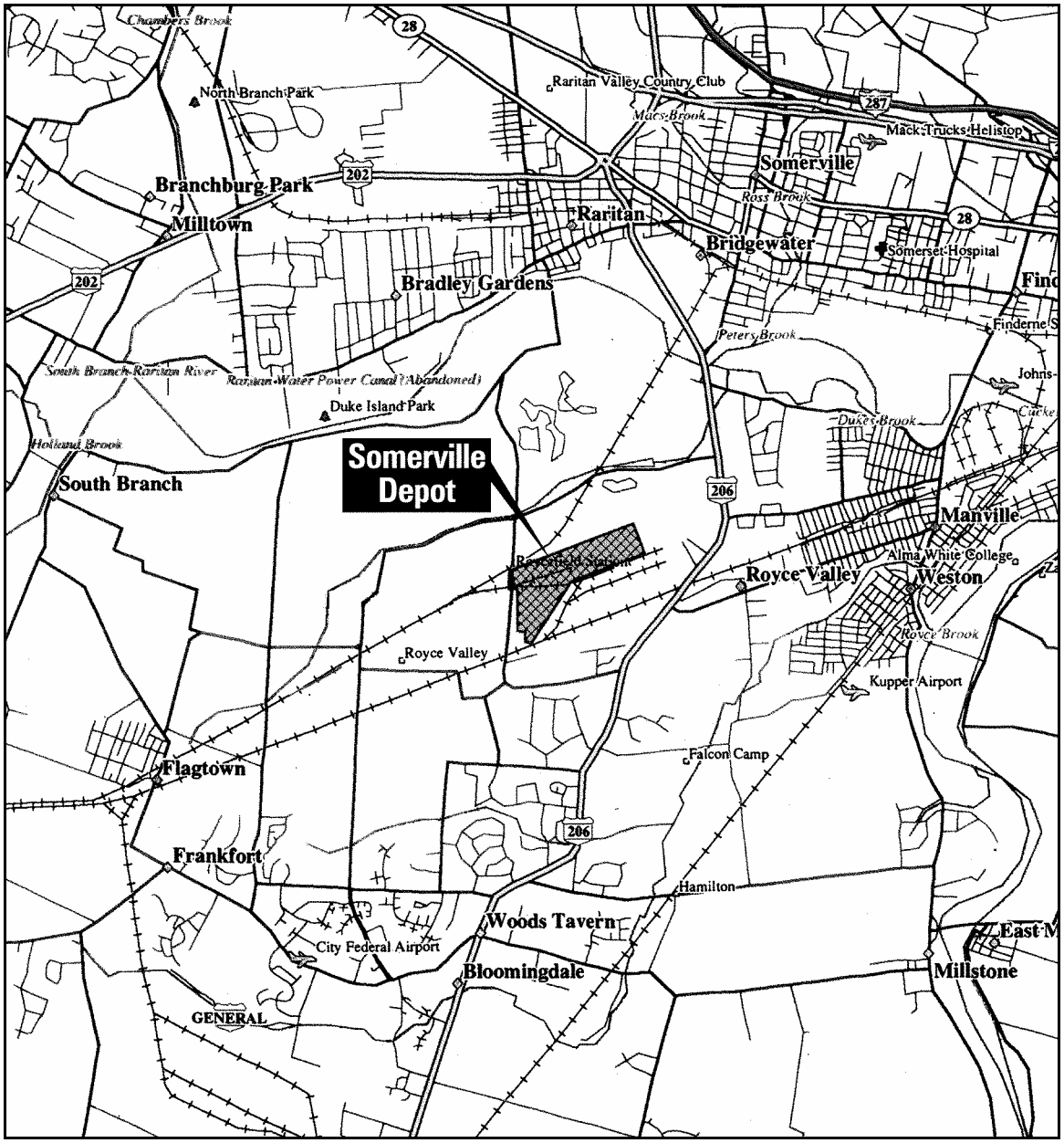

Figure 3. Location of Somerville Depot within Somerset County

Section 5: Public Environmental Interests

The information contained in this section was gathered from approximately 20 face-to-face interviews with residents of the Somerville area. These public environmental interests reflect community concern with environmental issues in general, and the Defense Installation Restoration Program at the Somerville Depot in particular. The interviews were conducted April 17-19, 2001. (See Appendix A for a list of community citizens interviewed.)

Depot-Community Relations

In early 2001, awareness of the Depot's existence was raised dramatically when it was reported that mercury would be transported from a depot in upstate New York to Somerville. Prior to that, the communities of Somerville and Hillsborough knew little about the Depot. Since then, public interest has been extremely high, focusing particularly on the storage and transportation of mercury and other materials viewed as a potential health risk. Public participation has sharply increased with public meetings, tours, newsletters, and the formation of an advisory board.

Prior to the publicity surrounding the transport of mercury to this depot, there was a nearly universal understanding that the materials stored at the Depot were surplus materials for wartime use. Most interviewees expressed very little specific knowledge about the commodities stored here. Few people actively looked for information about the Depot. Many were aware that stockpiles are being sold and that the Depot might close, but want to know more about the timeline. Since the mercury issue was raised, the newspaper has been the most common source of information along with public meetings and informational newsletters sent out by the Depot. Recent outreach efforts through mailings seem to be highly effective in communicating with the community members who have received them.

When asked what was the best way to keep the community informed, the most frequent response was a newsletter. One suggestion made by a few people was to offer a version of the newsletter in larger type for those who might have difficulty reading standard type. Other suggestions ranged from the Depot starting its own webpage to a "Frequently Asked Questions" section in the newspaper. A common theme was for communications to be as specific as possible and include timelines and decisions.

Regarding the frequency of these communiqués, most people preferred quarterly updates, plus asked to have any significant event reported as soon as possible. More than half of those interviewed suggested the Hillsborough Public Library at the Municipal Complex as the best location to place documents for public review. Other suggestions included distributing newsletters at other public libraries, providing fact sheets for parents at the Sunnymead Elementary School, choosing a location that stays open after normal business hours, and making documents available for review online or via e-mail.

When asked what level of detail they would like to see, responses ranged from brief summaries to complete technical documents. One idea was to make complete technical documents available in the library as a reference material and provide written summaries and explanations that can be

checked out or accessed online or via e-mail. The Hillsborough township website was suggested for this.

The most preferred form of communication (more than half of the respondents) was a town meeting where there could be a dialogue and people could hear questions asked by other citizens. Nearly as popular (eight people) was the idea of regularly updated fact sheets. Desired frequency of updates ranged from weekly to twice a year; quarterly was the most common followed by monthly. Everyone wanted to be updated when any significant change occurred.

Most interviewees have had increased contact with the Depot and other government officials (officials at every level have been contacted) since the mercury issue was raised, and expressed a high degree of confidence that these officials, particularly Jim Farley and local Depot personnel, were immediately responsive and very helpful. Even so, there was an underlying concern, based on the way the mercury issue was brought to light, that closer monitoring of activities is necessary. Those who have not had as much direct contact with Depot officials were much more likely to believe something still might be held back. Those who had taken a tour of the Depot did not share this concern and were highly impressed by the openness and candor displayed by Depot staff. Another recurring theme was a concern that any decision or action would take much too long. Some local government officials were particularly vocal about this concern, suggesting that the process be more streamlined and that the Depot close within two years.

The community has mixed feelings about the Depot and its activities since the mercury story came to light. Many feel there was something very devious going on that has now been exposed, and that a general distrust of the government is justified because they were not aware of activities prior to the current media attention. Many of these same individuals feel the only viable solution is for the Depot to be closed and all materials removed-- the sooner the better. Others are confident nothing too extreme is going on, but would like to know more. Some want specific assurances that all rules and regulations are being followed, and even requested that individuals who give assurances be required to sign their names to public documents so they can be held accountable.

All those interviewed agreed there has been a lot of media coverage of the Depot recently, particularly in the local newspapers. One interviewee described it as more than 30 stories on the front page or front of the local section for more than 10 days. Some felt the media had over-sensationalized the story and were causing harm, and they were concerned about the impact of the negative publicity on the community's image. As to the reason for such heavy coverage, some thought it was because local officials kept stirring up the media; others thought there was only media attention when people wrote in and that the media only cover things with juicy headlines. The local papers were universally considered the most thorough coverage and the Courier News was most frequently named the best single source of coverage.

There is a widespread feeling that the Depot was not very involved with the community until the recent high-profile mercury issue. Some said that prior to this, there was no need for community involvement. Others said that actions are only now being taken because the Depot is feeling the pressure of public scrutiny.

Public Issues

Everyone agreed that the community is now very focused on the mercury issue. However, there were differences of opinion regarding the level of awareness of environmental issues in general. Some felt the environment to be a big factor in most decisions that people make. More than half of those interviewed felt that people are only concerned about environmental issues if they think they might be directly affected or if an issue is the "hot issue of the week." The rest of the time, the community was thought to be not well-informed and pretty indifferent.

The issue of mercury storage dominates the concerns of this community. It has been highly publicized and builds upon other environmental concerns, particularly about the water supply. For example, the ground is thought to be very hard, and people fear it will cause any spill to spread widely. This concern is complicated by the fact that there is a park nearby where children play and because a possible future use for the land is as a public park or ball field. In addition, local officials expressed concern about the increasingly dense population in the area.

While there is strong interest in activities at the Depot because of the recent media attention, the level of concern varied widely, primarily based on the amount of contact the individual had had with base officials. Those who had worked closely with the Depot or who had taken tours had relatively low concern about current operations. Some expressed no concern and expected that the Depot would be made a scapegoat for any environmental problems in the area.

Communications with local officials is generally quite good and improving. All of the officials interviewed said the Depot staff had been very responsive, though all would like to see a rapid resolution of the mercury issue. Some concerns were expressed. For example, neighboring fire fighters who would likely be summoned to provide mutual aid are not comfortable with their knowledge about what is stored at the Depot. This concern has been acknowledged and is being corrected through a new sign system that is being developed hand-in-hand with the Emergency Management System personnel.

Concerns centered around a few common issues, including the potential impact on area groundwater if there were a man-made or natural catastrophe, the age of the facility and low-tech nature of some of its procedures, safety of the containers used for storage, the close proximity of a playground, and the long-term effects on the land. Also, there was substantial concern because several residents living near the Depot have medical problems that many think could have been caused by contamination from the Depot.

There is a general mistrust of the government and the Depot, which has been heightened by the perception of a cover-up. This feeling is very strong and has caused everyone to look more skeptically at the Depot. People asked questions like "Are our children less important than those in NY?"

All participants want to be kept informed about what is going on at the Depot. Some felt comfortable with regular updates, but others wanted the ability to verify for themselves that specific actions had been taken. Others who were not interviewed but who might want to

participate include youth sports organizations (Hillsborough soccer, Little League, football) who want to use the land in the future.

Six interviewees expressed a desire to be contacted about serving on a restoration advisory board, though some had wondered whether the board would have enough "teeth" to make it worthwhile. Four others were already on an advisory board. One important question was whether the restoration advisory board created for the mercury issue would be the same or different from the advisory board mentioned in the interview. The answer given was that it would be up to the community and the Depot to decide what best served the needs of the community.

All participants asked to be mailed a copy of the Community Relations Plan.

Section 6: Community Relations Activities and Timing

To meet the information desires of the community and to allow Somerville area residents to participate in the decision-making process, the Defense National Stockpile Center may schedule community relations activities throughout the Installation Restoration Program process at the Somerville Depot. These activities comply with the community involvement requirements of the National Contingency Plan and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, commonly called Superfund. We will review this Community Relations Plan throughout the Installation Restoration Program process to ensure that it continues to meet the public's information needs.

Highlights of Program

The activities associated with this Community Relations Plan (CRP) are designed to keep area residents informed of cleanup actions and allow them ongoing opportunities to participate in the decision-making process. The Depot will conduct community relations activities that will coincide with technical activities to ensure that information is received in a timely manner by the public.

The Depot's CRP serves as a planning document for community relations activities designed to inform and involve the public. It is a living document that guides the Depot through the ongoing process of outreach and communication to the community. The CRP activities are involved with several elements including the following:

- **Information Repositories (IRs)** - An Information Repository for the Depot is a required project file for public use that contains site information, documents on site activities and general information about the cleanup program. Technical summaries, site reports and fact sheets are included. The purpose of these files is to allow the public open and convenient access to site-related documents so that the public may stay better informed about the cleanup process. (Refer to Appendix B for the location of the Depot's IRs.)

- **Mailing List** – We have compiled an initial mailing list of individuals and organizations interested in Installation Restoration Program activities at the Somerville Depot. Other individuals and organizations that wish to be included in our mailings should contact James Farley at (908) 725-6400. (See Appendix C for the current mailing list.)

- **Community Meetings** - Community meetings provide an open forum for information exchange among the Depot, other agencies, the media and the public. These meetings would inform area residents of the studies' results and provide a forum for community members to ask questions or offer comments and suggestions on our findings. After the meetings, minutes are prepared and made available to the public at future Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings and in the Information Repositories.

- **Fact Sheets/Newsletters/Other** - The Depot is committed to providing simple, clear explanations of findings, risk information and remedial technologies in the form of fact

sheets, newsletters and progress reports to address the concerns expressed by the community. Community members are encouraged to request information. This information will also be placed in the Information Repositories.

- **Public Comment Periods** - Following the publication of environmental cleanup decision documents, the public will have a 30-day period to review and provide comments on the document or selected cleanup method. Public comment meetings will be held during required time periods for environmental cleanup documents. The public will be notified of these meetings through the local media. They will be held at a time and place convenient to the general public. Minutes of these meetings will be prepared and made available to the public at RAB meetings and in the Information Repositories.

- **Restoration Advisory Board** – If there is significant public interest, the Defense National Stockpile Center may form a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) through which area residents will participate in the Installation Restoration Program. This group will review the technical information developed during and following the Remedial Investigation. The Board would provide an open forum for discussion and exchange of information between the public and the government agencies involved. Its members would be asked to assist the Depot in sharing information with the local community. Included in this group would be leaders of local community groups, citizen representatives and local public officials.

Planned Community Relations Activities

- Conduct public meetings during public comment periods for environmental cleanup decision documents as required.

- Prepare responsiveness summaries following public comment periods for the proposed plans.

- Provide responses to written and oral comments from public comment periods. Comments will be considered and incorporated, as appropriate, and attached to final documents such as Records of Decision (RODs).

- Make copies of the RODs available for public review at the local Information Repositories after RODs are approved and signed by the EPA and prior to the commencement of the Remedial Action. A Notice of Availability for the ROD will be published in local newspapers that will also summarize the basis for and purpose of the selected action.

- Revise the Community Relations Plan when actions have occurred that change the Depot's approach to community relations, such as activities appropriate for the Remedial Design/Remedial Action phase. Revisions to the Community Relations Plan should update facts and verify information; assess the community relations program to date and indicate what approach the Depot should take; develop a strategy

to prepare the community for a future role in the environmental cleanup process; and conduct additional community interviews, if necessary.

For Additional Information

The point of contact for all inquiries related to Installation Restoration Program activities at the Somerville Depot is:

Mr. James Farley
Somerville Depot
152 U.S. Highway 206 South
Hillsborough, NJ 08844
(908) 725-6400

Additional information related to the Installation Restoration Program activities may be requested from:

DNSC Public Affairs
Attn: Environmental Division
8725 John J. Kingman Road
Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-6223
(703) 767-4430

Appendix A:
Community Relations Plan
Interviewees

The following people were interviewed during the preparation of this Community Relations Plan. The Defense National Stockpile Center recognizes their individual contributions to this effort and appreciates their involvement.

Glen Belnay, Health Officer
Hillsborough Township
379 S. Branch Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Lou Bocchino
Private Property Neighbor

Mark Brownlie, Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management
Hillsborough Township
379 S. Branch Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Laura Colodner
Community Relations Coordinator,
NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection
5th Floor, 401 East State St.
Trenton, NJ 08625

Anne Cudney
Private Property Neighbor

Dave Doyle
NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection
5th Floor, 401 East State St.
Trenton, NJ 08625

Sharon Ercoliani
Interested Citizen

Linda Gross, Principal
Sunnymead Elementary School
55 Sunnymead Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Walter Hazard, CEO
Atrion Corporation
170 Route 206
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Don Kakas, Manager
Community Relations
NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection
5th Floor, 401 East State St.
Trenton, NJ 08625

Helen Machat
Private Property Neighbor

Sonya Ann Martin
Town Committee Member
379 S Branch Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Leon Overman
Private Property Neighbor

Bob Rosco, Captain
Hillsborough Township Police Dept.
379 S. Branch Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Annette Sammer
Concerned Citizens of Boro of Hillsborough

Doug Urbano, Owner
LMI Landscape Materials, Inc.
311 Roycefield Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

LeRoy Gunzelman III, Director
Emergency Management Somerset County
P.O. Box 3000
Somerville, NJ 08876

Judith C. Haas, Town Administrator
Hillsborough Township
379 S. Branch Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Chris Weniger, Fire Official
Hillsborough Township
379 S. Branch Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

John Yanko, Fire Prevention Inspector
Hillsborough Township
379 S. Branch Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Appendix B:
Information Repositories

The public information files for the Somerville Depot Installation Restoration Program are held at:

Somerville Public Library
35 West End Ave.
Somerville, NJ 08876-1899
(908) 725-1336

Point of Contact: Stan Pollakoff – Library Director

Hours of Operation:

Monday:	10:00 am – 9:00 pm
Tuesday - Thursday:	10:00 am – 8:00 pm
Friday – Saturday:	10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Sunday:	Closed

Hillsborough Public Library
555 Amwell Road
Neshanic, NJ 08853
(908) 369-2200

Point of Contact: Virginia Parks, Director

Hours of Operation:

Monday – Thursday:	9:30 am – 9:00 pm
Friday – Saturday:	9:30 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday (July & August)	9:30 am – 12:30 pm
Sunday:	Closed

Appendix C:
Mailing List

The following individuals, agencies and organizations comprise our initial mailing list. These individuals and organizations, along with those who were already on the mailing list created in response to the recent mercury issue, will receive information, as it becomes available, on Installation Restoration Program activities at the Somerville Depot. Other individuals or organizations wishing to be included on the mailing list should telephone Mr. Jim Farley, Somerville Depot manager at (908) 725-6400.

Key Community Leaders and Interested Parties

Federal Officials

Senator Lautenberg
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Jon S. Corzine
One Gateway Center, 11th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
(973) 645-3030

Mike Ferguson, U.S. Congressman
7th District
2333 Morris Avenue, Suite B8
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 686-5576

Rodney Frelinghuysen, U.S. Congressman,
11th District
30 Schuyler Place, Second Floor
Morristown, NJ 07960
(973) 984-0711

Rush Holt, U.S. Congressman
12th District
1630 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone - (202) 225-5801

State Officials

Christopher "Kip" Bateman, Assemblyman (R)
36 East Main Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
(908) 526-3600

Peter J. Biondi Assemblyman (R)
1 East High Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
(908) 252-0800

County Officials

Denise Coyle
Rick Fontana
Peter S. Palmer
Ken Scherer
Robert Zaborowski

Somerset County Freeholders
20 Grove Street
PO Box 3000
Somerville, NJ 08876

Local Town Officials

Somerville Mayor: David E. Hollod;
Clerk/Adm.: Ralph D. Stemadori;
Planning Board Chairman: Bernie Navatto;
Assessor: Eugene Flaherty

Municipal Bldg., 25 West End Ave.
Somerville, NJ 08876
(908) 704-6983

Hillsborough Mayor: Joseph Tricarico, Jr.;
Deputy Mayor: John L. Gelardi, Sr.;
Second Deputy Mayor: Robert W. Mack
Committee Members:
-- Christine Jensen
-- Sonya Anne Martin

Hillsborough Municipal Building
379 South Branch Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844
(908) 369-4313

Media
Somerville, New Jersey Area

The Courier News
1201 Route 22
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-0600
(908) 722-8800

Hillsborough Beacon
307 Omni Dr.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844
(908) 359-0850

Star Ledger
1 Star Plaza
Newark, NJ 07102-1291
(973) 877-4229

Somerset Spectator (Weekly)
PO Box 5717
Somerset, NJ 08875-5717
(732) 247-8700

North Jersey Newspapers (Publisher of The Hills-Bedminster Press and Somerset Messenger-Gazette)
PO Box 699
Somerville, NJ 08876-0699
(908) 575-6660

WAWZ 99.1
Monmouth University
Cedar Ave
West Long Branch, NJ 07764
(732) 469-1300

WWTR AM 1170
PO Box 1250
Morristown, NJ 07962-1250
(973) 538-1250

WRSU-FM 88.7
126 College Ave.
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1166
(732) 932-7800

WNJN TV Channel 52
PO Box 777
Trenton, NJ 08625-0777
(609) 777-5000

WCTC-AM / WMGQ-FM
PO Box 100
New Brunswick, NJ 08903
(732) 249-2600

Appendix D:
Glossary

Comment Period: A period, usually 30 days, when members of the public review and comment on specific documents or proposed actions.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA): A federal law, often called Superfund, enacted by Congress in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA).

Decision Document: A formal published record of a significant decision made regarding an Installation Restoration Program site. Decision Documents are prepared when a site requires no further action or when a site remediation method has been selected.

Focused Feasibility Study: The Focused Feasibility Study is used to select the most appropriate remedial alternative for a site, to prepare cost estimates and to initiate the remedial design. When circumstances limit the number of available options, and therefore the number of available alternatives developed, a Focused Feasibility Study, focusing on two or three alternatives, may be applicable.

Groundwater: Water beneath the earth's surface, found in soil, sand and other porous substances. Groundwater may be pumped to the surface and used as a source of drinking water or for irrigation.

Hydrogeologic Study: The study of the geology of groundwater, with particular emphasis on the chemistry and movement of water.

Information Repository: A place where current information, technical reports and reference documents concerning a Defense National Stockpile Center Installation Restoration Program site are stored. The Information Repository is usually in a public library near the depot and is available for public access and review.

Installation Restoration Program (IRP): A Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act environmental cleanup program. It was established to identify, assess, investigate and clean up substances at past disposal and spill sites.

Monitoring Well: A well used to collect groundwater samples for water quality analysis or to measure groundwater levels. A monitoring well can also be a well drilled at a hazardous waste site to collect groundwater samples for the purpose of physical, chemical or biological analysis to determine the amounts, types and distribution of substances in the groundwater beneath or migrating from a site.

Preliminary Assessment (PA): The first phase of the Defense National Stockpile Center's Installation Restoration Program. It consists primarily of past and present depot employee interviews and a thorough review of operational and historic records of the depot. This assessment discovers if potential environmental impacts exist on the depot. If further study is needed, a Site Inspection is conducted.

Remedial Action (RA): The actual construction or implementation of the remedy selected to contain, control or remediate an identified site. This action follows the Remedial Design phase of the Installation Restoration Program.

Remedial Design (RD): The development of technical specifications and engineering design necessary to carry out a Remedial Action.

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS): Investigation and analytical studies conducted at an Installation Restoration Program site. The investigation and study fully define the type and extent of the environmental impacts, establish criteria for remediating the site, identify and screen potential alternative remedies and analyze the technologies and costs related to each potential alternative remedy.

Site Inspection (SI): The second phase of the Installation Restoration Program. A Site Inspection begins if the Preliminary Assessment suggests the existence of environmental impacts at a particular site. This second phase involves on-scene inspection and sampling of soil, surface water and groundwater. The samples are analyzed to confirm the presence or absence of environmental impacts.

Solvent: A liquid substance that dissolves or disperses other substances.

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA): A federal law enacted by Congress in 1986. The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act amended the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980. This Act sets cleanup standards that strongly favor permanent remedies, gives the Environmental Protection Agency more control over cleanup procedures and involves states and the public in the cleanup decision-making process. This Act sets health and safety standards for workers at cleanup sites.

Surface Water: Ground-level bodies of water, such as rivers, lakes and streams.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA): The primary federal agency responsible for enforcement of federal laws protecting the environment.